

Weare Parks and Recreation Committee
Regular Meeting, November 8, 2005

Attendees: Jim Blouin, Gene Proper, Chuck Metcalf, Tom Reynolds, John Nikias, Valerie King

No Public Comment

Senior Citizen's Update with Dot:

- Everyone was happy with the poetry reading. About 16 people attended including one new member of the group.
- Committee agreed to paying for another dinner tentatively scheduled for the second Tuesday in December (the 12th).
- In response to the success of the poetry reading, Jim suggested another event perhaps with a magician or a comedian this time.
- John suggested the Committee supply games to the Wearites if they so request.
- In regards to Dots question from the Garden Club, Chuck agreed to speak with Heleen Kurk about donation for beautification as the money may have been put in the Selectmen's budget this year.

Follow-up discussion to the meeting with the Board of Selectmen (BOS):

John, Jim, Chuck and Gene were present for the meeting. Meeting was held to discuss BOS plans to change Director position. The changes include paying the Director by stipend rather than by the hour and having the Director report to BOS instead of Parks and Recreation. It would appear that BOS is reversing the roles of the Director and the Committee by having the Director oversee task performed by the Committee. The BOS gave the impression that they expected the tasks previously done by the Director to be done by volunteers. When asked if Parks and Recs would remain in control of their own budget, the BOS gave mixed responses. This plan has not been well received by Parks and Recreation. The following concerns were voiced at tonight's meeting:

- It doesn't make sense for the person working on behalf of the Committee to be reporting to someone other than the Committee.
- There could be conflict should the Town Administrator instruct the Director no to do something Park and Rec has requested.
- They created the Director position with the intent that the Director would ease the burden on the Committee.
- There aren't any volunteers to take over the tasks of the Director. That is why we have a Director.
- BOS wants to control everything so why not let them dissolve the Committee and let them do it themselves.

BOS postponed a vote until their next regularly scheduled meeting. Committee members were encouraged to go to the town website and e-mail their concerns to one or all 5 of the BOS members.

Cutting Blade received a 3 year contract to do lawn care. Park and Rec fall clean-up services have already been completed. Jim was given the OK to spend another \$300 for pruning (includes taking away debris). It was also suggested that Cutting Blade include removal of the fallen tree at Chase Park in the clean-up.

Budget Update (Tom): Printouts handed out at the beginning of the meeting. \$2,800 has

not been subtracted from the balance. This would include about \$1,500 in bills. Exotic weed funds should be in our budget as well which would add \$3,000 to the balance. The Committee was asked to be ready to offer ideas at the December meeting as to how we might spend this remaining money. WAC was unable to find a sponsor for the 1st and 2nd grade basketball team so Jim suggested the Committee consider sponsoring the team. The Committee's response was resoundingly in favor of this idea and the suggestion that the Committee sponsor other sport teams in the event that the team is unable to find a local business sponsor. John made the motion to sponsor the WAC 1st and 2nd grade basketball team. The motion was seconded by Gene. The Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Ropes and Buoys: Jim will get prices for next month's meeting. To avoid problems with a possible spending freeze, Chuck made a motion for Jim to get ½" rope and buoys not to exceed \$700. John seconded the motion.

It was suggested that we spend some of the budget on a spare pump for the water supply at Chase Park. However, this should not be necessary as Tom hopes to include this as part of the CIP project this spring that would resolve the problem with the pump.

Movies at the Town Hall: Jim looked into this. Apparently showing movies requires a license and the license is specific to a building. There is a company called Swank that shows movies but they still required that we have our own equipment. It doesn't appear that we can go any further with this idea.

Padding for the top of baseball field fencing-Jim will come back with pricing information for the next meeting. He will also look into weather ability and whether or not it can be left in place all year or will need to be taken down and stored each winter.

Items to be before the end of the year: Review of earlier discussion. We need a battery for the boat so Chuck doesn't have to take his out of his truck every time we need the boat. We will hold off on the water pump. The football team needs "down markers" for next year. The one they have doesn't work properly.

Directors Report:

- __ Took care of Chase Park and took down the tarps over the picnic area at Bolton Field. One of the tarps is torn. It is being sent back to the company and being replaced free of charge.
- __ It costs \$280 to blow water out of the irrigation system.
- __ Purington field is being worked on starting this Friday. Landscape Support (?) has been hired to do the entire project.
- __ The Halloween Party had a good turnout. Most of the arts and craft supplies were used up. Jim thanked the volunteers and those who come to the party for making it a success.
- __ Decision was made not to put up the ice rink this year. Instead, Jim snowblows an area at Chase Park. Looking into the possibility of selling the rink since it is more of a homeowner model and we don't have a good place to put it in town (especially while the new Middle School is being built).
- __ February targeted for possible luncheon at the Town Hall with a speaker, magician, comedian.
- __ Possible Monarch's hockey game event this winter. That has proven successful in the past.

- _. Those who went to the circus last month had a good time. Sold 76 tickets and received positive feedback.

Discussion about future plans for Bolton Field:

- _. Jim to contact Harry Weatherby about where we would be able to put a leech field
- _. Jim to speak with John Stark Generals Football Association about what they would like for concession stand (size and location). Should we have one shared with soccer or should each field have their own?
- _. Tom to contact Weare Athletic Club for the same

_. **Ideas discussed:**

- Place baseball concession against the backstop so they can announce the game from the concession building.
- Widen road for parking by move the rocks, which run along the edge of the road, closer to the field.
- Put bathroom/concession between the playground and soccer field (where there is currently a jumble of rocks). Change banking into a retaining wall and put the building in front of it.
- Make the buildings a combination concession stand/storage building and have one for each field. Make it multi-purpose.
- Don't place buildings where it will block the view of the playground from the fields. Parents want to be able to watch both their kids when one is on the field and the other is at the playground.
- Put two story building between bleachers with concession below and announcer's booth on top.